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The building of the Main mountain government.

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The building of the Main mountain government and now the Ural State Conservatory named after M.P. Mussorgsky located on the corner of Lenin Avenue and 8 March street is considered as one of the most significant architectural and historical monuments in Yekaterinburg. Only well-known Plotinka is older than this "stone treasure" of the Ural capital except works of wooden architecture.

In 1723 asingle-storey wooden house of Siberian ober-bergampt created by William de Gennin (whitewashed with lime «wattle and daub hut») was located on this place. In the years of 1734-1737 V.N. Tatishchev took the position of the Chief Commander of the Ural mining plants. He changed the name of the ober-bergampt into the Office of the Main government of Siberian and Kazanian factories and approved a project of a new brick two-storeyed building of the Office. The building had a high pitched roof, 34 rooms and galleries on post-columns was designed by Dutch architect "forest keeper" Johann von Banner. The project is now stored in the Sverdlovsk region archive. The construction was entrusted to Tyumen and Solikamsk bricklayers headed by I. Shaposhnikov. They erected the building in 1737-1739 and then a few years were spent to end up the final finishing. [5]

By the beginning of the XIX century the Mountain government was a powerful institution, which controlled the work of more than 30 factories in the Urals. Because of this fact the decision about the necessity of restoration of the building was made. The assignment to design the reconstruction project was entrusted to M.P. Malahov, well-known in the Urals and beyond their borders architect. His project was implemented in 1833-1835. According to the new project the internal planning structure was changed slightly, but it was significantly increased due to the erection of the third floor. The ancient rooms with sail and partly coffered barrel vaults were saved. The facade was fully modified and rebuilt in accordance with traditions of Russian classicism. [2]

The composition of the main facade with two symmetrical relatively to the central axis of the building entrances was supplemented by two symmetrical posed porticos that seemed to have fixed the corners of the building. Four corinthian columns were topped by a smooth arched pediment on high pedestal. Pedestals brought out of the plane of the facade, what allowed to give porticos features of spaciousness and airiness and to organize at the level of the second and third floors broad galleries of cast-iron with different patterned lattice (a magnificent one on the second floor and simple such as "running wheel" type on the third one). The features of monumentality according to the purposes of the building were created thanks to the elongated proportions of porticos, large-scale columns topped with corinthian capitals having beautiful pictures. Smooth plastered wall dissected by the rhythm of window openings without any decoration was the background for standing out porticos. Additional decorative effect was given by famous Kasli casting lattice. [2]

The remarkable stair with marble steps and rail with floral ornament is located in the eastern part of the building. Flight of steps is supported by figural columns made of cast iron. [1]

Another reconstruction of the building was carried out in the Soviet post-war period. In 1966-1968 an additional building, where classrooms, rehearsal, auditorium and other facilities are situated, was built on the main part from the yard side. The additional building formed a closed rectangle with a courtyard and generally was not influenced by the architecture of historic building. The main facade overlooking the Lenin Avenue has not changed significantly.

We cannot deny the historical significance of this building. In 1880 there was the first congress of the Ural mine owners. After the October Revolution of 1917, when the Ural mountain government was liquidated, the building was taken by Uralsovnarhoz, where the first projects of plans development for the reconstruction and development of the national economy of the Sverdlovsk and whole Ural region were started. In 1918 during the Civil War, enrolment of volunteers for the Red Army was carried out in a former building of the Main mountain government.

Many prominent figures visited the walls of the oldest stone building in Yekaterinburg. Among them were the heads of the Kamchatka expedition Vitus Bering and Semyon Chelyuskin. They ordered cannons of Ural factories and anchors for their ships. Also then naturalist, the member of St. Petersburg Academy of Sciences, Johann Georg Gmelin, as well as the members of the academic expeditions: geographer and academician Peter Simon Pallas and naturalist, academician Ivan Lepekhin were in this building. In June of 1829 the eminent German polymath Alexander Humboldt visited this building and in May 1833 mechanic and inventor, creator of the first Russian locomotive and railway Yefim Cherepanov got silver medal within these walls. The building has repeatedly been visited by a prominent geologist, the first president of the

Academy of Sciences of the USSR A.P. Karpinski, who was involved in the study of the geological structure of the Urals. In 1899, D.I. Mendeleev's expedition worked there, they surveyed the state of the mining Urals, the results of which were published in the major report about the state and prospects of the mining industry of the Urals in 1900. On 8 January 1922 at the meeting of the party and state leaders F.E. Dzerzhinsky, who was in Yekaterinburg accidentally during the travelling to Siberia, made a speech in the walls of this building.

The Ural State Conservatory named after M.P. Mussorgsky, one of the oldest musical institutions of Urals and Siberia has located in this unique building since 1934. The Main mountain government office is an outstanding example of the Ural cities-factories office buildings of the Classical period. It has the status of an architectural monument of federal significance.

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Circus

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People aren't able to contemplate the inner world, that's why they need visual images that reflect their ideas about it. In architecture such object are cult buildings and different erections. The circus is considered to be such kind of visual images in architecture.

A circus performance represent a show on the round arena of 12-13 meters in diameter. Mounted shows, performances of acrobats, jugglers and